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records of the company, Lefroy, the Manchester Manuscripts, the Ferrar Papers, and here and there special additional material from the Record Office and British Museum, which, however, taken as a whole do not in the main go beyond the sources already utilized by other students of American colonial history. A similar analysis might be repeated for the East India Company, save that use has been made of some valuable tracts preserved at the British Museum and at the Bodleian which have not hitherto been utilized; a more careful search of manuscript court books has been made and some additional manuscripts at the museum have been cited. In general, additional material has been here brought forward. In the case of the fishery companies the *Calendars of State Papers* and valuable pamphlet material have supplied the chief sources. Here, therefore, as a whole is a painstaking process, marked by a few discoveries, without the addition of material which will radically alter our views as to the general history of any of the companies hitherto well known. The basis of comparison afforded, however, is of great value.

Lastly follows the distinctive method and purpose of the book which should win for it a special place in the literature of economic history. Throughout, the historian of a commercial organization is at work. The intricate and often doubtful records of buried accountants are analyzed and enlivened, to be given in almost suspiciously clear and tabular fashion as the explanation of given policies or to illustrate the conditions and results of complicated effort. To touch within the limits of this notice even one of the many detailed questions herein so often involved might be unfair. Until the first volume appears the student can well use Dr. Scott's book while he awaits the explanation of some matters which at present may perplex him. The style of the annalist does not lend itself to many digressions. Indeed the wealth of fact here compressed must have strained the patience of both writer and publishers. But the consulting student will profit by the excellent index.

ALFRED L. P. DENNIS.

The English Factories in India, 1630-1633: a Calendar of Documents in the India Office, Bombay Record Office, etc. By WILLIAM FOSTER. (Oxford: Clarendon Press. 1910. Pp. xl, 354.)

IN this volume a further installment of about 320 valuable documents relating to the operations and interests of the London East India Company becomes more available for students who are unable to search the manuscript records and useful to those who are. The India Office collections, including the "Original Correspondence" series supply about three-fourths of the material utilized. But a new source is drawn upon for the first time in this set of calendars, namely volume I. of the "Surat Factory Outward Letter Book", preserved at the Bombay Record Office. It is "the oldest volume of English records now extant" in India. Mr.

G. W. Forrest, the editor of *Selections from the Letters, etc., preserved in the Bombay Secretariat: Home Series*, used five of the letters in this set; but here about seventy are abstracted. Nevertheless it should be noted that the material drawn from the "Original Correspondence" series at the India Office and from the "East Indies" series at the Public Record Office, had been previously calendared by Mr. Noel Sainsbury. Here and on the whole fortunately a calendar of these documents is given on a new system "in which verbatim quotation is freely used". In general the volume preserves the high standard set by its predecessors. Obviously, however, only a few notes as to the character of the documents are here possible.

First the records are invaluable to the student of Indian economic history, for not only are the problems, methods, and activities of foreign merchants exhibited, but their relation to the productive economy of India is shown. And in this connection the influence of famine in India on the life of the people and on European commerce is gruesomely illustrated by the records of 1630. Contrary to the fancies of present-day Indian agitators famine was a grim reality centuries before Nationalist Congresses were thought of, before the British were more than mere beggars for permission to live and trade in India. Thus in 1630 from "Gujarāt to the Golconda coast the land became one vast charnel-house", till, "the country being wholly dismantled by drought" "life was offered for a loaf, but none would buy; rank was to be sold for a cake, but none cared for it"; and the "poore mechaniques", the workers of India, "perished in the feilds for want of food to sustaine them". But the famine had other and interesting results. It sent English shipping promptly and persistently to the ports of the Persian Gulf, here to find profit and to develop such interest that the correspondence of the English government at home with the Shah of Persia took on additional significance, as it has recently.

But another pregnant interest also steps forward in the seventeenth century. For from Armagaon and Masulipatām northward English factories began more closely to dot the coast of the Bay of Bengal, till later in the century they were to serve as stepping-stones to Calcutta and finally to the rich administration of Bengal itself. In this service of English expansion Richard, the son of Henry Hudson, played a more modest rôle than did his famous father in another hemisphere. But this touch again clearly illustrates the natural relationship, if not companionship, of American and Asiatic adventure to Englishmen of the early seventeenth century.

The contact with Dutch, Portuguese, Danes, and French takes on new color in these years; and indeed attempts are made to establish an *entente* with the Portuguese to provide for more friendly commercial relations and even co-operation in certain fields. Some of these and other matters are also treated in the introduction, where in addition Mr. Foster cites from the "Hague Transcripts" and from printed records of the Dutch

East India Company. Indeed did not the documents themselves invite closer attention a reviewer might easily concoct a notice of the book from the editor's lucid summaries. The next volume of documents, which will deal with a period never reached by Mr. Sainsbury's last volume of calendars, will be even more useful.

ALFRED L. P. DENNIS.

A Calendar of the Court Minutes, etc., of the East India Company, 1640-1643. By ETHEL BRUCE SAINSBURY, with an Introduction and Notes by WILLIAM FOSTER. (Oxford: Clarendon Press. 1909. Pp. xxx, 407.)

THE previous volume in this series was reviewed in this journal, XIII. 856. The concluding entry of December, 1639, in that volume promised the East India Company relief from rival companies and held forth the hope of other favorable prospects. The present volume which appears to be marked by the same admirable methods and sound scholarship which distinguished its predecessor, covers the period from the week when Wentworth was created Earl of Strafford to the month in which Pym died. The documents are with few exceptions calendared from the Court Book of the company. They do not give much direct information regarding the tangled political situation at home. Nevertheless the collection has certain special features; and beside supplying indispensable material for the financial history of the corporation furnishes additional facts regarding the relationship of the company to political parties and to the dominant authority whether that be crown or Parliament.

The student of American affairs will also find certain familiar names and perhaps gain an added notion of the relationship of Western planting with Eastern commerce. Thus it may not be wholly frivolous to note that Lord Say and Sele and Lord Brooke, who fostered the planting of the "Nutmeg State", were themselves interested in the spice-trade. Sir Christopher Clitheroe, the governor of the East India Company in 1640, had been at stormy meetings of the Virginia Company. It is doubtful, however, whether the clerk Fotherbie was the same who had acted as secretary to the Virginia Company and to the Commission of 1624. Indeed, indexes of several previous volumes of calendars confused Henry with his relative, Robert Fotherbie. But in this volume we find the death of Woodall, surgeon to the company, who had been interested in sending cattle to America. Moreover, the same general financial methods were involved in the "magazines" of the American companies and the "joint-stocks", which so occupied the minds of the directors of the East India Company. Again, as on certain occasions some American colonists were to dispute concerning the authority of the crown and of Parliament regarding the affairs of chartered corporations, so we find a similar question involved in the various petitions of the company to the Privy Council and to the House of Commons. Further light on the